

05-071 Department of Education  
Chapter 13  
Qualifying Examinations For Teachers, Educational Specialists And Administrators

Comment and Response to Proposed Amendments

Ch. 13 is a routine technical rule. For that reason, no public hearing is required and none was held. The proposed rule was initially published Wednesday, October 29, 2014, and the public comment period was October 30 through December 1, 2014.

Subsequently, it was determined that an additional change was needed to Section 3.10 which required a new comment period. The revised rule was again published on January 28, 2015, and the public comment period was January 28 through February 27, 2015. Below is a list of the persons who submitted comments and a summary of the comments and responses.

**Comment Period ending December 1, 2014:**

Commenters:

1. Katherine W. Yardley, Associate Provost and Dean, College of Education, Health, and Rehabilitation, University of Maine at Farmington;
2. Diane Jackson, Ed.D., University of Maine, Orono

Comments summarized:

1. Commenter (#1 and #2)

Comment: The transition period from test 5031 to 5001 is too short to accommodate the students who take the test variably between their late sophomore year to their early senior year, and for students who may take time off before graduating. A two or three year transition period was suggested as meeting students needs.

Response: A 5-year transition makes sense to accommodate the variety of student circumstances and to conform to previous general department practice. A common transition period is simpler even if it requires certification staff to know more test options.

The comments resulted in a minor change.

2. Commenter (#1 and #2)

Comment: Test 5001 is available on the ETS site now before the effective date of the proposed Ch. 13. Which test should be recommended before the changes are effective? Will the passed portions of both tests count toward the test requirement? If test 5001 is taken before the effective date of Ch. 13, will a passing test result count?

Response: Recommend test 5031 until 5001 is made effective by the effective date of the changes in Ch. 13. After the effective date of Ch. 13, recommend test 5001. Students who may have passed portions of 5031, they may take either the unpassed portions of 5031 during the transition or those portions as presented in test 5001. The successful test results of the combination of 5031 and 5001 will be honored, providing a *complete* application is filed in the certification office before the expiration date of test 5031. Passed test scores on test 5001 will be honored even if the test was taken before the effective date of the changes to Ch. 13, but only after the effective date of Ch. 13.

The comments did not result in a change to the proposed rule.

### 3. Commenter (#1)

Comment: There is a discrepancy between the chart on page 4 which requires 5001 beginning 9-1-15, and page 7 which gives the effective date of 5001 as 8-1-15. Which is correct?

Response: The discrepancy was an error. September 1 is the most common start dates for new tests. The reason for an August 1 start date was to accommodate students who may test while attending a program that starts in August. That is no longer important given the change to a 5-year transition for tests 5031 and 5001. Accordingly, 5001 will begin 9-1-15.

### **Comment Period ending February 27, 2015:**

#### Commenter:

Barbara Moody, Director, Teacher Education, Husson University, Bangor, ME

#### Comment Summarized:

Comment: Some students took the new 5001 Praxis II test before October 15, 2014, to qualify for student teaching in the spring of 2015 with the understanding that the test would be effective on August 1, 2015, as it was originally proposed. With the effective date change to September 1, 2015, these students are concerned that delaying their certification until after August 31, 2015, will adversely affect their hiring potential.

Response: The effective date of test 5001 will remain August 1, 2015, to accommodate those who relied on that initially proposed date.